

## State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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## GOV. EASLEY UNVEILS 2004 N.C. SCHOOL REPORT CARDS

North Carolina Library System Partners to Promote Across the State

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley today unveiled the 2004 North Carolina School Report Cards. Easley was joined by state superintendent Patricia Willoughby. The report cards provide important information about schools across the state and will be distributed to parents by districts beginning today, which was proclaimed *N.C. School Report Card Day*.

"The school report cards provide important information for parents about how their schools are performing," said Easley. "We must continue to do what we can to keep our parents informed and involved. When parents are actively involved, children are more likely to succeed."

Also today, Gov. Easley announced a partnership among the North Carolina Library System to help spread word about school report cards to the public. Libraries across the state will be displaying posters and handing out bookmarks informing citizens of the report cards. The libraries will also help to provide access to the school report card website, <a href="www.ncreportcards.org">www.ncreportcards.org</a> through the use of their computers.

"These report cards will help parents, teachers, and administrators focus on areas to improve the learning environment of students," said Willoughby. "I also hope that they will bring greater accountability in education and a stronger commitment to parental involvement in the day-to-day operation of our schools."

The 2004 N.C. School Report Cards data includes:

- School district information about school facilities.
- School district financial information including the amount of federal, state and local funding; how funds are spent; and capital expenditures.
- Teacher quality information as defined by the federal "No Child Left Behind" statutes.
- Adequate Yearly Progress results according to federal "No Child Left Behind" statutes.
- New school suspension and school violence data.
- High school graduation rates.
- The number of classrooms with Internet connections.

For more information about the N.C. School Report Card and how to interpret the data, log onto www.ncreportcards.org.

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